

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 CIAE-00

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SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSAFE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

S E C R E T USNATO 4838

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/81

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MCAP

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF AFCENT HEADQUARTERS FROM THE NETHERLANDS

REF: A. USNATO 4544

B. USNATO 4685

SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE OUTLINES STATUS OF NATO PLANNING
EFFORT AIMED AT REORGANIZATION OF ALLIED TACTICAL AIR FORCES
IN CENTRAL REGION AND, IN PARTICULAR, FOCUSES ON
ACTIONS TAKEN BY NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO INFORM ALLIES
OF STATUS OF PLANNING. END SUMMARY.

1. IN VIEW OF EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN REPORTED REFTELS
REGARDING POSSIBLE REMOVAL OF AFCENT HQ FROM THE NETHERLANDS,
SECRET

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MISSION WISHES TO REVIEW SEQUENCE OF KEY EVENTS AND ACTIONS
TAKEN TO INFORM NATIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THESE ARE:

A. AT DPC MINISTERIAL DEC 8, 1971, SECRETARY LAIRD

REQUESTED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE BE ASKED TO CONSIDER THE ORGANIZATION OF AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION AS A MATTER OF PRIORITY.

B. DPC MINISTERS ON DECEMBER 6, 1972, FOLLOWING STATEMENTS MADE IN PLENARY SESSION BY SECRETARY LAIRD AND LORD CARRINGTON, INVITED THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO FORWARD THEIR REPORT ON THE REORGANIZATION, COMMAND AND CONTROL OF TACTICAL AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION FOR CONSIDERATION AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.

C. SACEUR ON APRIL 1, 1973 FORWARDED TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OUTLINE PLANS FOR THE REORGANIZATION.

D. ON JULY 24 THE MILITARY COMMITTEE PROVIDED SACEUR WITH GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A REORGANIZATION OF ALLIED AIR FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THESE GUIDELINES PROVIDED FOR, INTER ALIA, THE FORMATION OF A SEPARATE AIRCENT HEADQUARTERS COLLOCATED IN BOTH PEACE AND WAR WITH AFCENT, POINTING OUT THE IMPORTANCE THE MC ATTACHED TO ULTIMATE COLLOCATION IN PEACE AND WAR.

E. DURING THE ENSUING PLANNING EFFORT WHICH COMMENCED IN AUGUST AT AFCENT, CINCENT PROVIDED TO SACEUR A SERIES OF WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS. THESE PROGRESS REPORTS, ADDRESSED FOR INFORMATION TO THE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE OF THE NATIONS CONCERNED (BELGIUM, CANADA, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, UNITED KINGDOM AND UNITED STATES), ADVISED THAT TWO OPTIONS FOR COLLOCATION WERE BEING CONSIDERED ON THE BASIS OF MILITARY MERIT AND RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS. ONE OPTION POSTULATES PEACE COLLOCATION AT BRUSSUM; THE SECOND, AT RAMSTEIN.

F. DURING AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER THE DIRECTOR OF THE AFCENT AIR PLANNING GROUP (GENERAL JONES, COMMANDER, 4TH ATAF) VISITED THE CAPITALS OF CONCERNED NATIONS IN THE CENTRAL REGION AND DISCUSSED THE TWO SPECIFIC COLLOCATION OPTIONS WITH MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND/ OR CHIEFS OF DEFENSE
SECRET

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AND AIR STAFFS.

G. ON SEPT 24 CINCENT FORWARDED HIS PROPOSED PLAN TO SHAPE; COPIES WERE ALSO PROVIDED TO THE NATIONS CONCERNED.

2. AS TO THE CURRENT AND PROJECTED STATUS OF THE PLANNING EFFORT, THE SHAPE STAFF IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING CINCENT'S PROPOSAL; AND IT IS SHAPE'S INTENTION TO FORWARD THE REQUIRED PLAN TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE BEFORE THE ESTABLISHED DATE OF NOV 1. THE SHAPE POSITION WILL BE BASED ON MILITARY FACTORS; THEIR SUBMISSION WILL, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR EVALUATION OF RELATED POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS BY HIGHER NATO AUTHORITIES.

3. MISSION UNDERSTANDS THAT GENERAL GOODPASTER HAS FORWARDED
CLARIFICATION SUBSTANTIALLY AS ABOVE BY PERSONAL LETTER TO LUNS.
USNATO DOES NOT PLAN TO PURSUE MATTER WITH ALLIES. HOWEVER,
IF ANY ALLY RAISES THIS ISSUE AGAIN, USNATO PLANS TO DRAW
ON ABOVE INFORMATION TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.
RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MCAP
To: STATE
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THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
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